

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Tree Cutting – Visakhapatnam District – Permission to cut and transport of Teak trees lying in the Patta lands of the Tribal farmers, duly relaxing Rule 8 of AP Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 - Accorded - Orders issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT.

G.O.Rt.No. 302

Dated:20 -06-2012.

Read the following:-

1. GO. Rt. No. 392, EFS&T (For.I) Department, Dated. 23-07-2010,
2. GO. Rt. No. 164, EFS&T (For.I) Department, Dated. 03-04-2012
3. Representation of the Scheduled Tribe Ryots of Visakhapatnam District received through Hon'ble M (FES&T) Endst. No. 115/M(FES&T)/2012 dated: 4-5-2012.

ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, Government have issued orders permitting the District Collector, Visakhapatnam to allow the applicants to cut and transport the Teak trees which are having more than 120 Cms girth, from their respective Patta lands, subject to payment of Security Deposit of 10% of value of produce by the applicants with the Divisional Forest Officer, which will be released soon after the transport of produce satisfactorily.

2. In the joint representation 3rd read above, the Scheduled Tribe Ryots of Visakhapatnam District have represented to the Government stating that the Government have issued orders in G.O.Rt. No.392, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology (For.I) Department, dated. 23-07-2010, permitting them to cut and transport teak trees from their patta lands in Koyyuru Mandal of Paderu Division for their family needs, subject to payment of Security Deposit of 10% of value of the produce by the applicants with the Divisional Forest Officer. They also represented that the cutting permission was already accorded by the District Collector by collecting 10% of the value of the trees as security deposit. When they started felling, Forest Officials in Visakhapatnam District have objected and informed that the Forest Department will cut and transport the trees to Depot and sell it and pay the value in instalments as they are having powers to do so as per the orders issued by Government. They have further represented that by following this procedure, abnormal delay is caused as the Forest Department is under staffed. Delays are also occurring in cutting and transport of the produce to the Depot. As a result, they are not able to cultivate the crops and not earning livelihood. Because of the delay, their financial problems are mounting. Therefore, they are not able to meet the day to day expenses, including children education, family expenditure and health care etc. The Tribal Ryots have further represented that the Government in G.O.Rt. No.164, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology (For.I) Department, dt.03-04-2012 issued orders permitting for cutting of Teak and Non-Teak trees existing in patta lands in Scheduled area of Visakhapatnam District duly relaxing Rule 8 of Andhra Pradesh Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978. They have finally requested the Government to accord permission for cutting and transportation of their trees duly relaxing Rule 8 of Andhra Pradesh Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 to them also.

(Contd-2)

3. Government after careful examination of the representation of the Tribal farmers of Visakhapatnam District, hereby accord permission for cutting and transportation of all the trees for which permissions were already accorded by Government in the references 1st read above, duly relaxing the procedure laid down in Rule 8 of Andhra Pradesh Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 28 B (3) of AP Forest Act, 1967, on par with the other Tribal farmers of Visakhapatnam District to whom the relaxation was accorded vide reference 2nd read above, as the orders in G.O. Rt. No. 392, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology (For.I) Department, Dated. 23-07-2010, were issued prior to issue of orders issued in G.O. Rt. No. 164, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology (For.I) Department, Dated. 03-04-2012.

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad is directed to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

M. SAMUEL,
SPEICAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

Copy to
The District Collector, Visakhapatnam – for information and necessary action.
The P.S. to M (FES&T).
SC/SF

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.